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INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 20th June 2006

No.17874—PC-48/2006-I & PR.—Rules for grant of Accreditation to News Media representatives at the State, District, Subdivision and Block Headquarters of Orissa and the norms for the constitution of Orissa Press Accreditation Committee.

1. Short Title :—(1) These rules may be called the Orissa News Media Accreditation Rules, 2006.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the *Orissa Gazette*.

(3) These rules shall apply to the grant of accreditation to the representatives of News Media Organizations at the State, District, Subdivision and Block Headquarters of Orissa.

2. Definitions—In these rules unless the context otherwise requires, —

- (i) “Accreditation” means recognition of Representatives of News Media Organisations by the Government of Orissa for the purpose of access to sources of information in the Government and also to news materials, written or pictorial, released by, or on behalf of the Director of Information & Public Relations and /or other agencies of the Government of Orissa.
- (ii) “Accredited Journalist” means a Journalist who has been granted accreditation under these rules.
- (iii) “Committee” means the Orissa Press Accreditation Committee constituted under rule 4(ii).
- (iv) “Director” means the Director of Information & Public Relations of the Government of Orissa and shall include any Officer of the State Government who is authorized to discharge any or all the duties, functions and responsibilities of the Director of Information & Public Relations for the time being.
- (v) “Government” means the Government of Orissa.

- (vi) “News Media” shall mean and include Newspaper, wire service, non-wire service, News agency, News feature agency, Electronic Media agencies and organization containing news and comments on public news.
- (vii) “Daily Newspaper “ shall mean a newspaper published for not less than five days in a week or as defined in Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.
- (viii) “Weekly” and “Fortnightly” Newspaper shall mean which have not less than forty-five or twenty-two issues in a year respectively.
- (ix) “Newspaper” shall have the same definition as given in the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.
- (x) “Electronic News Media Organisation” (Television or Radio) will include any T.V./Radio News programme, production unit and T.V./Radio News Agency.
- (xi) “Working Journalist” means any working journalist as defined in the Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provision) Act, 1955 as amended from time to time.

3. Constitution of the Orissa Press Accreditation Committee and conduct of the Business of the Committee—

- (1) The Government of Orissa shall constitute a Committee called the Orissa Press Accreditation Committee hereinafter referred to as the OPAC to discharge the functions laid down under these rules.
- (2) The Committee shall consist of the Director as Chairman, Deputy Director (Press) as Member-Secretary and a maximum of seven other members representing five from Print Media and two from Electronic Media by way of nomination by Government.
- (3) The Director shall preside over the meetings convened by Member-Secretary and ensure maintenance of all records and proceedings of the deliberations through Member-Secretary.
- (4) The term of the Committee shall be for a period of two years from the date of its first meeting :

Provided that where it is not reasonably practicable to reconstitute the Committee after expiry of its term, the State Government may extend the term of the Committee last constituted for a period not exceeding three months at a time and one year in all.
- (5) The Committee shall meet at least once in every six months or more if considered necessary by the Chairman.
- (6) One-third of the total members will form the quorum of the meeting.
- (7) At least clear seven days notice shall be given for convening a meeting of the Committee.
- (8) The decision of the Committee shall be taken as per the Orissa News Media Accreditation Rules, 2006, but in case of disagreement the decision shall be taken on the basis of majority of the members present and voting in the meeting subject to approval of the Government.

- (9) The Director shall have the power to grant regular accreditation in cases where an accredited news media representative changes his organization to another accredited organization with the approval of the Government.

4. Scope of Accreditation—

- (1) Accreditation shall be given in accordance with these Rules to the representatives of News Media Organisations of the following categories, namely :—
- (i) Editor-*cum*-Correspondent, (ii) Cameraman-*cum*-Correspondent, (iii) Cameraman, (iv) Cartoonist, (v) Cartographer, (vi) Sports Journalist, (vii) Science Journalist, (viii) Media Critics and such other categories as may be recommended from time to time by the Committee to the Government.
- (2) Accreditation shall not confer to any official or special status on the representatives of News Media Organisations but shall recognise and identify him/her as a professional journalist dealing with news of public interest.
- (3) Accreditation so granted shall be utilized only for journalistic purposes.
- (4) An accredited journalist shall not print or use the words “accredited to the Government of Orissa” on his visiting cards, letter heads or any other form of stationery or publication.
- (5) When an accredited journalist ceases to represent the media organization on whose behalf he/she is accredited, the fact shall be brought to the notice of the Director in writing within fifteen days by both the journalist concerned and the editor concerned (in case of newspaper) and General Manager (in case of Agency) and in such case the accreditation card shall be returned to the Director.
- (6) Accreditation shall be withdrawn if the organization on whose behalf the journalist is accredited ceases its publication or the network ceases to function except for a period not exceeding six months for reasons of industrial dispute or natural calamities.
- (7) Publications containing information of sectional interest such as house journals, technical/professional publication are not eligible for accreditation.
- (8) The organizations owned and run by cable operators providing cable television service through cable television networks will not be eligible for accreditation.
- (9) The accreditation shall be withdrawn as soon as the conditions on which it was given cease to exist. Accreditation is also liable to be withdrawn/suspended if it is found to have been misused.
- (10) If an applicant or a media organization is found to have supplied false/fraudulent/forged information/documents, the representative/media organization shall be debarred from accreditation up to a maximum of two years but not less than one year as decided by the Committee with the approval of Government.

5. General eligibility criteria for Grant of Accreditation—

- (1) An applicant for accreditation shall not be eligible unless he/she has acquired not less than ten years experience as a Working Journalist for State Level Accreditation and not less than five years experience as a Working Journalist for accreditation at District or Subdivisional or Block Level :

Provided that experience of work in a Government media organization viz. –The Press Information Bureau of Government of India, News Services Division of All India Radio, the News Unit of Doordarshan, the Photo Division of Government of India may be deemed as equivalent to experience of work in a news media organization for the purpose of accreditation:

Provided further that those Officers having experience of Journalistic work in Media Units of the Information & Public Relations Department of the State Government other than those referred to above, may also be considered for the purpose of accreditation, if the Committee would be satisfied about their journalistic experience.

- (2) Application for accreditation shall be considered only from those media representatives who reside either at Bhubaneswar or Cuttack for State Level Accreditation and District, Subdivision and Block Headquarters for accreditation at respective levels. Government may in consultation with the Committee, relax this for granting district level accreditation in case of the journalists stationed at other important news centers.

6. Eligibility criteria for Newspapers seeking accreditation for Working Journalists under their employment—

Newspapers of up to fortnightly, periodicity shall only be eligible to seek accreditation for journalists working with them, if they belong to the following categories :—

- (i) The contents of the newspapers has the news and information emanating from the Headquarters of the Government of Orissa and/or district Headquarters and shall mainly contain information and/or comments, features, illustration on current, social, political, economic, scientific, sports, culture and other matters of public interest.
- (ii) (a) The circulation of a daily newspaper shall not be less than 10,000 (ten thousand) copies of four full size pages per publishing day .
(b) The circulation of a newspaper (weekly, fortnightly) shall not be less than 10,000 (ten thousand) copies of four full size pages or eight pages of tabloid size per publishing issue.
(c) The circulation of a periodical/magazine (up to fortnightly only) shall not be less than 10,000 (ten thousand) copies with a minimum of forty pages per publishing issue:

Provided that special consideration may be shown to newspapers contributing the Science and Technology and to those published from hilly or backward areas or from regions underdeveloped in terms of information and communication.

7. Eligibility criteria for News Agencies seeking Accreditation—

The following criteria shall be taken into consideration for grant of accreditation to news agencies, feature agencies, photo agencies and television news and feature agencies, namely :—

- (i) The content of the items circulated/produced by agencies mentioned above shall include news and information emanating from the Headquarters of the Government of Orissa as well as district and subdivisional headquarters.

- (ii) (a) A news agency shall use telegraphic or electronic transmission and receiving facilities and shall have paying subscribers in news media organizations spread over not less than three districts.
- (b) A news-photo agency shall have a minimum of six paying subscribers and a minimum annual subscription income of Rs.30,000 and television organization Rs.50,000 from media organization as certified by an established firm of Chartered Accountant.
- (c) A feature agency shall have not less than twelve paying subscribers in media organization and shall have annual revenue not less than Rs.20,000 :

Provided that out of the paying subscriber there shall be at least one large class newspaper approved by Government in case of news agency and news photo agency and in case of feature agency at least one T.V./Radio news production shall be there:

Provided further that an applicant seeking accreditation on behalf of news agency shall have to submit one years original clippings not less than 50 in numbers at the rate of at least 4 numbers per month.

- (iii) Wire agencies shall provide services to at least five news subscribers including audio-visual networks on a regular commercial basis and shall produce certificate from an established firm of Chartered Accountant, about their annual revenue which should not be less than Rs.5.00 lakhs.

8. Grant of accreditation to the Editor-cum-Correspondent—

Editors of small and medium newspapers who also work as correspondents may be given accreditation as Editor-cum-Correspondent provided the following criteria are fulfilled :—

- (i) The newspaper/periodical concerned qualifies for accreditation as per these rules.
- (ii) The applicant himself/herself is qualified for grant of accreditation as a correspondent.
- (iii) The applicant submits clippings of published despatches apart from editorial carrying his/her credit line appearing in the newspaper/periodical on whose behalf accreditation is sought for.

9. Grant of Accreditation to Cameraman-cum-Correspondent—

A Cameraman representing a newspaper/news photo agency/T.V. News Unit may be granted accreditation as Cameraman-cum-Correspondent provided he/she satisfies the following criteria :—

- (i) The applicant is eligible for accreditation as a Cameraman
- (ii) The organization on whose behalf the accreditation is sought for, qualifies for the grant of such accreditation.
- (iii) The applicant produces clipping of his/her dispatches circulated or produced by the media organization on whose behalf accreditation is sought for.

10. Grant of Accreditation to Free Lance Journalists—

The Committee may consider the grant of accreditation to an applicant not attached to any particular news media organization provided that such a person has at least 20 years experience as a full time working journalist and has a proven income of not less than Rs.25,000 per annum from Journalistic activities :

Provided that the applicant shall submit two years original clippings on his/her credit lines, not less than 50 in numbers, at the rate of 4 numbers per month which shall include publication in one large class newspaper.

11. Eligibility criteria for Electronic Media seeking accreditation for their Representatives—

Electronic Media shall only be eligible to seek accreditation for their representatives, if they belong to the following categories, namely :—

- (i) T.V./Radio News production organization, having air-time arrangements with channels/stations, must have at least one news bulletin /programme of minimum 15 minutes duration per day.
- (ii) Satellite channels, having dedicated at least 15 per cent of their respective air-time (approx. 3.5 hours in a 24 hours cycle) to telecast/transmission of news and news related programme per day.
- (iii) News magazines, producing organization having telecast/broadcast tie up with T.V. Channels/Stations must have a minimum total cumulative programme duration of 60 minutes per week on news and news related contents.
- (iv) News websites posting news of public interest in the State.
- (v) Television/News Agency should supply news clip to at least five subscribing satellite T.V./Radio organization on regular basis and shall have a minimum annual revenue of rupees fifteen lakhs from news clip etc.

12. Procedure for grant of Accreditation—

- (i) A media representative who wishes to seek accreditation at the State Level shall apply to the Director in a Form as prescribed at Annexure – I to these rules. Each application shall be accompanied by a letter from the Editor (in case of newspaper)/General Manager (in case of agencies and electronic media organization) recommending accreditation on behalf of the newspaper/news agency/ news media organization concerned as the case may be.
- (ii) Application for accreditation at District, Subdivision and Block Headquarters shall be submitted in a Form as at Annexure-I to these rules through the Collector and District Magistrate concerned who shall forward such applications to the Director after proper verification and with his/her recommendation.
- (iii) Application for accreditation complete in all respects shall be placed before the Committee and accreditation may be granted by Government on its recommendation.
- (iv) Application for renewal of accreditation shall be submitted to the Director, I. & P.R./ Collector & District Magistrate as prescribed at Annexure-II to these rules.

- (v) Accreditation cards shall be issued under the signature of the Director for a period of one Calendar year and may be renewed from year to year by the Director on recommendation of the Editor concerned (in case of local newspaper)/State Bureau Chief (in case of national newspaper)/General Manager (in case of State level news agency)/ State Bureau Chief (in case of national level news agency)/ General Manager (in case of State Level Electronic Media)/News Editor (in case of national level electronic media). The said recommendation shall reach Government before 15 days of the date of expiry of accreditation, failing which the accreditation shall stand cancelled and this would be intimated to the concerned authorities.
- (vi) If the Committee for reasons duly recorded in its minutes decides not to grant accreditation to an applicant the fact of such a decision shall be communicated to the applicant and the news media organization concerned with the approval of Government.
- (vii) The aggrieved applicant and/or news media organization shall be entitled to make a representation to the Committee for reconsideration and appeal to the Government.

13. Provisional Accreditation—

Accreditation on a provisional basis may be granted by the Director with approval of Government on recommendation of minimum of four members of the Committee till the next meeting of the Committee if the applicant fulfils all the qualifications laid down for grant of accreditation. In absence of the Committee, Provisional accreditation may be granted by the Director on approval of the Government.

14. The maximum number of news representatives from Print Media & Electronic Media who may be accredited—

(1) The maximum number of news representatives for Print Media & Electronic Media who may be granted accreditation by the State Government at the State, District, Subdivision & Block levels shall be kept within such reasonable limit as may be determined periodically by the Government.

The maximum number of State Level Representatives to be based either at Cuttack or at Bhubaneswar that may be accredited on behalf of a newspaper including a newspaper published from more than one place in Orissa shall be determined on the basis of its circulation as follows :—

(1)	DAILIES	Maximum number of Accredited Journalist
(a)	Circulation from 10,000 to 75,000	Two
(b)	Circulation from 75,001 to 1,50,000	Three
(c)	Circulation from 1,50,001 onwards	Four
(2)	WEEKLIES/FORTNIGHTLIES	
(a)	Circulation from 10,000 to 50,000	One
(b)	Circulation above 50,001 to 75,000	Two

Not more than one journalist of English/Hindi/other regional language dailies including dailies published from more than one place from outside the State and with considerable circulation in Orissa shall be given accreditation at the State level to be based either at Cuttack or at Bhubaneswar. The number of State Level accredited journalists of each of the News Agencies shall be limited to two only.

(2) Daily newspapers and news agencies, weeklies and fortnightlies published from Orissa, Oriya dailies, weeklies and fortnightlies published from outside Orissa will be entitled to accreditation at District/Subdivision/Block levels subject to the conditions prescribed in these rules. In exceptional circumstances newspapers published from outside the State with considerable circulation in Orissa and News Agency and News Media Organizations of repute may be given accreditation at the District level.

(3) For granting accreditation in case of weeklies and fortnightlies the main criteria shall be content study of the paper and the material published in the paper shall justify the necessity of its news representatives for day-to-day collection of news from official sources and day-to-day contact with such sources.

(4) Not more than one accredited journalist and one accredited photographer of a newspaper/news agency/news media organization shall claim facilities for attending one official function.

15. Suspension/Withdrawal of Accreditation—

His/her accreditation will be liable to be suspended/withdrawn if—

- (i) He/she uses information and facilities accorded to him/her for non- journalistic purposes.
- (ii) In course of his/her duties as correspondent he/she behaves in an undignified or unprofessional manner.
- (iii) The conditions on which he/she was granted accreditation cease to exist and he/she ignores or violates the conditions on which information and facilities are provided by Government or acts contrary of any provisions of this rules.
- (iv) When an Editor (in case of Newspaper)/General Manager (in case of agency) desires for cancellation of accreditation granted to its correspondent or correspondents, he/she shall apply to the Director for cancellation of accreditation with sufficient justifications. Director on receipt of such application will cancel the accreditation with the approval of Government and place the same in the next meeting of the Committee for information.
- (v) An accredited media representative who continuously remains absent for 3 months from headquarters shall forfeit his/her accreditation. This period may be extended by 3 months more by the Director on a written request from the Editor (in case of Newspapers)/General Manager (in case of agency) concerned.
- (vi) He/she has been granted accreditation on submission of false information to the Committee :

Provided that in case the newspaper/news agency/news media organization itself is responsible for such willful publication of false, *mala fide*, baseless or incorrect report, it will be liable to dis-accreditation.

- (vii) The accreditation may be suspended by the Director. The same may be placed before the Committee in its next meeting for information. The Committee if defers with such decision will record their views & the same will be referred to Government whose decision will be final.
- (viii) If any accredited representative is found to have given false information about himself/herself or about his/her organization and if the Committee after giving a reasonable opportunity to the representative concerned to defend himself /herself is satisfied that the charges are true, the accreditation may be withdrawn with the approval of Government for a period not exceeding two years and not less than one year.

16. Review of Accreditation by the Committee—

- (1) There shall be review of all accreditations, once in a year by the Committee, granted to the representatives of News Media Organisations.
- (2) For purposes of such a review, information regarding circulation, revenue may be called for and the accredited news representatives may be asked to provide clippings of published dispatches or photographs or dope sheets from the newspaper/news agency/Print Media & Electronic Media Organization concerned.

17. Amendments—

The Orissa Press Accreditation Committee or the Director, may make recommendation to State Government for amendment of these rules from time to time as considered necessary.

18. Repeal—

The Orissa Press Accreditation (Constitution of the Orissa Press Accreditation Committee and Grant of Accreditation) Rules, 1994 are hereby repealed :

Provided that notwithstanding such repeal anything done or any action taken under the rules so repealed shall be deemed to have been done or taken under these rules.

By order of the Governor

D. MOHANTY

Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government

ANNEXURE-I

**APPLICATION FORM FOR ACCREDITATION OF NEWS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AT
THE STATE/DISTRICT/SUBDIVISION/BLOCK HEADQUARTERS OF ORISSA**

To

The Director,
Information & Public Relations Department,
Bhubaneswar

Sir,

I, the news representative of(Name of the Print Media/Electronic Media Organisation) with the particulars appended herewith may kindly be granted accreditation by the Government of Orissa to work with my headquarters at

- (1) Name in full (in block letters) :
- (2) Father's /Husband's name in full :
(in block letters)
- (3) (a) Present residential address,telephone No. :
(b) Office address in full, Telephone No. :
- (4) Permanent Home address :
- (5) Nationality :
- (6) Date and place of birth :
- (7) Name and address of the Print / Electronic :
Media Organisation on whose behalf
accreditation is being sought.
- (8) Designation :
- (9) Are you working only as a News :
Representative/ Editor or also as
General Manager.
- (10) Whether employed whole-time or part-time ? :
(a) Give details and state the salary/emoluments :
(b) Are you coming under EPF, if yes, please :
attach EPF slip along with salary slip for
last one year.
- (11) Are you engaged in any other work ? :
(Please give details)
- (12) Educational and other qualifications :
- (13) Professional & Experience :
(in chronological order)

Print/Electronic Media where Salaried posts were held	Post held	<u>Period of service</u>		Salary drawn
		From	To	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)

(14) Are you accredited with Central/State :
Government, if so, please give details.

(15) Since when residing at the headquarters :
of State/District/Subdivision/Block
(Strike out which is not applicable)

(16) Places of stay during the last five years :
with full address.

I agree to abide by the Orissa News Media Accreditation Rules, 2006 as amended from time to time of the Information & P.R. Department and to accept the decisions of Government of Orissa in the said Department.

I do hereby declare that there is no dues pending against me towards rent of the Government quarters, dues of electricity/water charges.

I promise that I will not engage myself in any work other than journalistic. I will also surrender my accreditation card within 15 days of my ceasing to be a news representative from this Print/Electronic Media/Media Organisation.

Certified that the above information is correct.

Yours faithfully,

Date.....

Signature of the News Representative

**TO BE FILLED IN BY THE EDITOR/GENERAL MANAGER OF THE PRINT/
ELECTRONIC MEDIA/MEDIA ORGANISATION**

1. Information about the newspaper—

- (a) Name and address of newspaper :
- (b) Name of the Editor :
- (c) Periodicity of publication(Daily/
Weekly/Fortnightly). :
- (d) Language :
- (e) When established :
- (f) Subjects covered :
- (g) Areas covered :
- (h) Circulation (Attested copies of circulation
certificates from R.N.I. and Chartered
Accountant should be attached).
Circulation figures in Orissa to be shown
in case of papers, published outside the State . :
- (i) No. of News Representatives accredited
at present (in the category for which this
application is submitted). :
- (j) Group/Chain to which the paper belongs :

2. Information about the News/Feature Agency—

- (a) Name and address of the Electronic Media :
- (b) Name of the General Manager :
- (c) When established :
- (d) Number of Newspapers served regularly
on commercial basis (Attach list). :
- (e) Annual revenue (Attach a Photostat copy
of the certificate from a Chartered Accountant
verifying the revenue of the agency, received
as subscriptions from news media organizations). :
- (f) Frequency, volume of service and method of
distribution. :
- (g) Type of coverage in which interested :
- (h) Any other information, if any :

3. Information about the Electronic Media

(1) Name and address of—

- (a) T.V./Radio News/Satellite Channel/ :
News Magazine/News Website
Production Organisation.
- (b) Name of the General Manager :
- (c) When established :
- (d) Number of bulletin/Programme duration :
per day/Air-time dedicated to telecast of
News per day/ Cumulative programmes
duration per week on news.

(2) Name & address of—

- (a) T.V./Radio News Agencies :
- (b) Name of the General Manager :
- (c) When established :
- (d) Accrual of Annual Revenue from :
News Clips/details of supply of
News clips to Satellite T.V./Radio
Organisation on regular basis.
- (e) Any other information, if any. :

4. Certified that Shri/Smt./Ms.....is working as a full-time /part-time News representative and he/she is being paid a salary of Rs.....(Rupees.....) per month whose salary/EPF (if any) Slips (attested) are attached. The information furnished by him/her is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I undertake to inform the Director, I. & P.R. within a period of 15 days of his/her ceasing to be a correspondent/media representative.

Date.....

Name and Signature of the Editor/
General Manager with office stamp

Verification Report and recommendations of the Collector and District Magistrate in case of District/Subdivision/Block level correspondents.

Date.....

Signature of the Collector and
District Magistrate with office seal

NOTE—

1. Please furnish reply to every column.
2. This form is to be submitted in triplicate along with three attested copies of passport size photographs of the applicant.
3. A letter from the Editor/General Manager to the Director of Information & Public Relations requesting for grant of accreditation is necessary.
4. Attested copies of certificates in support of entries in columns 12 to 14 should be attached.
5. Please attach a copy of the terms and conditions of your appointment including pay and other emoluments in the present organization.
6. Please attach some recent copies of the newspaper/periodical/news feature materials, as the case may be.
7. The application will be considered in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Rules for Accreditation notified by the Government.
8. The application for accreditation to District/Subdivision/Block level correspondents should be recommended by the concerned Collector and District Magistrate.
9. Incomplete application will not be accepted.

ANNEXURE- II

APPLICATION FORM FOR RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION

To

The Director,
Information & Public Relations Department,
Bhubaneswar

(Through the Collector and District Magistrate concerned in case of District, Subdivision
and Block level correspondents)

Sir,

I, the News Representative of(Name of Print/Electronic
Media Organisation) with the particulars appended herewith request you to please renew my
accreditation for another one year from.....to.....

1. Name in full :
2. Designation :
3. Name of Print/Electronic Media Organization. :
4. Present residential address :
5. Accreditation Card No. :
6. Period of validity :
7. Station :

I do hereby declare that there is no dues pending against me towards rent of the
Government quarters, dues of electricity/water charges.

Date.....

Signature of the News Representative

RECOMMENDATION BY THE EDITOR/GENERAL MANAGER

Certified that Shri/Ms./Smt.....(Name and designation of the News Representative should be mentioned) with his/her headquarter at..... is working as a full-time /part-time News Representative in our Organization and he/she is being paid a salary of Rs.....(Rupees.....) per month whose salary/EPF (if any) Slips (attested) are attached. The information furnished by him/her is correct to the best of my knowledge.

His/her accreditation may kindly be renewed for another one year from to..... and his/her accreditation card is sent herewith.

Date:.....

Name and Signature of the Editors

Date.....

Signature of General Manager
with office stamp